

Transdisciplinary Theme

How We Express Ourselves



Central Idea

People use the performing arts to display cultural heritage and entertain.

Lines of Inquiry

.The performing arts in different cultures
How cultural heritage is communicated through the performing arts
How the performing arts have changed over time

Learner profile

Open-minded, risk taker, communicator

Attitude focus

Creativity, confidence, tolerance

Teacher Questions

1. What are performing arts?
2. How is cultural heritage expressed through performing arts?
 - a) What does this dance tell you about the culture?
 - b) How do you know that?
3. How has new media influenced the performing arts?

Concepts

Function, connection , change

Transdisciplinary Skills

Social and communication skills will be exercised when learning and practicing various drama techniques. Students will be developing **social skills** when planning and carrying out their group performance. They will need to listen carefully to one another, assume their share of responsibility, and recognize and respect that other people's beliefs and ideas differ from their own. Students will use **communication skills** by stating their opinions, drawing conclusions from performances viewed and understand the ways in which images, music and language interact to convey ideas, values and beliefs. The unit will culminate in the children exhibiting these skills during the presentation of their summative assessment, "The Grade 5 Extravaganza".

Examples of Learning Engagements

Learning about William Shakespeare and his works

Writing a script

Practicing various drama techniques such as freeze frame, mime and charades

Viewing and critiquing cultural performances

Exploring the performing arts of their own culture

Students studying French will learn about the performing arts in Francophone countries as well as sing the song "Change le Monde".



Key Dates

February 11th, 13:30 — ISL-Qatar's International Day

February 14th, 15:00 — 19:30—Parent/Teacher Conferences (primary)

February 16th, 10:00 — "Romeo & Juliet" at Katara Village

March 19th , 12:00 — Grade 5 Extravaganza, matinee performance

March 20th, 18:00 — Grade 5 Extravaganza, evening performance

Unit Vocabulary

body language

critique

expression

mime

pantomime

charades

cultural

genre

props

technology

choreography

communication

impersonation

plot

tradition

costumes

drama

improvisation

performance

theatre

Music

Grade 5 will explore lyrics and melody. They will listen to and perform 'scat singing', understand the features of a blues song, play a blues scale, and compose, perform and evaluate a blues composition. They will also listen to works by Chopin, experiment with drum circle, strengthen their voices, and learn the assembly songs 'Rainbow connection' and 'Iko, Iko' among others. Students will also discuss the design of the piano.



PE

Grade 5 will begin their Movement to Music unit looking at a variety of cultures through the performing art of dance. Students will have the opportunity to research their own and others' cultures and occasions when dance is used as a form of entertainment. Students will be learning a variety of styles of dancing through peer teaching and sharing ideas. The unit will include choreographing their own dances and motif development. Students will then self-assess and evaluate their own performances through observation and reflection.

Action in the PYP

What does action look like?

Action from someone involved in the PYP can be as simple as a student wanting to share with someone what they are learning about or even wanting to go to the library to continue their learning of a particular topic. Or, it can be an action like writing to local businesses or a corporate CEO about an issue that was raised during a unit on sharing the planet. Action in the PYP can also be deciding not to act, for example during a unit on health a student realizes that a can of Coke with dinner is not the best choice and they opt for milk instead.

What action can we take during and as a result of this unit of inquiry?

1. Students can research and watch various performances during their own time and discuss with friends, family and classmates.
2. Create, practice and share performances with others.
3. Inform others about the performing arts and the cultural side of these (posters, PowerPoint presentations)
4. Design props and costumes.
5. Take lessons such as dance, piano, acting.
6. Become a member of The Doha Players to see or take part in their performances.



Please let us know if your child has taken any action. We will acknowledge their effort and celebrate this in the classroom.

How You Can Help Your Child

Grade 5 students are required to do a considerable amount of research. Please remind your child that copy/paste is not permitted as it shows no understanding of the content. All work submitted must be in the student's own words. As they research, they must also record the sources that they have used.

Your child has been given a Homework Diary. Once he/she has completed their weekly homework, please check it and sign the diary. Any messages for teachers can also be communicated through these.

Encourage healthy eating habits by only putting nutritious food in their lunches. Remember that we have a **"No Nuts"** policy and that Nutella is a product consisting mainly of nuts.